'Where did they hit me?'

Illinois leaders outraged

Illinois leaders—Republicans and Democrats, blacks and whites—were united in shock and outrage over the shooting of George C. Wallace.

Mayor Richard J. Daley, who called the shooting a "dastardly act, expressed hope that "the disciples of hatred and viciousness would stop their attacks on one another. My God, what kind of society have we?"

"He had a right to express his views," Daley added. "We prayed last night at our family table for Gov. Wallace to recover and I hope to God he does."

"The demented mind that brought about this terrible act has once again stained the reputation of this country and its people," said Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.)

Sen. Adlai E. Stevenson III (D-Ill.) expressed "deepest sympathy" for Wallace and his family and added, "Every act of violence in our politics defames the character of our society."

GOV. RICHARD B. Ogilvie called Monday's shooting "one more tragically misguided effort to substitute violence for rational dialog in our political life."

The Illinois House of Representatives unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the shooting as an "immoral attack on the most basic democratic right—that of people to choose freely the men to govern them."

Rep. Roman Pucinski (D-Ill.) called the assault on Wallace an "outrageous attack on the very institution of freedom."

"It makes a mockery of free elections and denies all Americans their fundamental rights to free speech," Pucinski said.

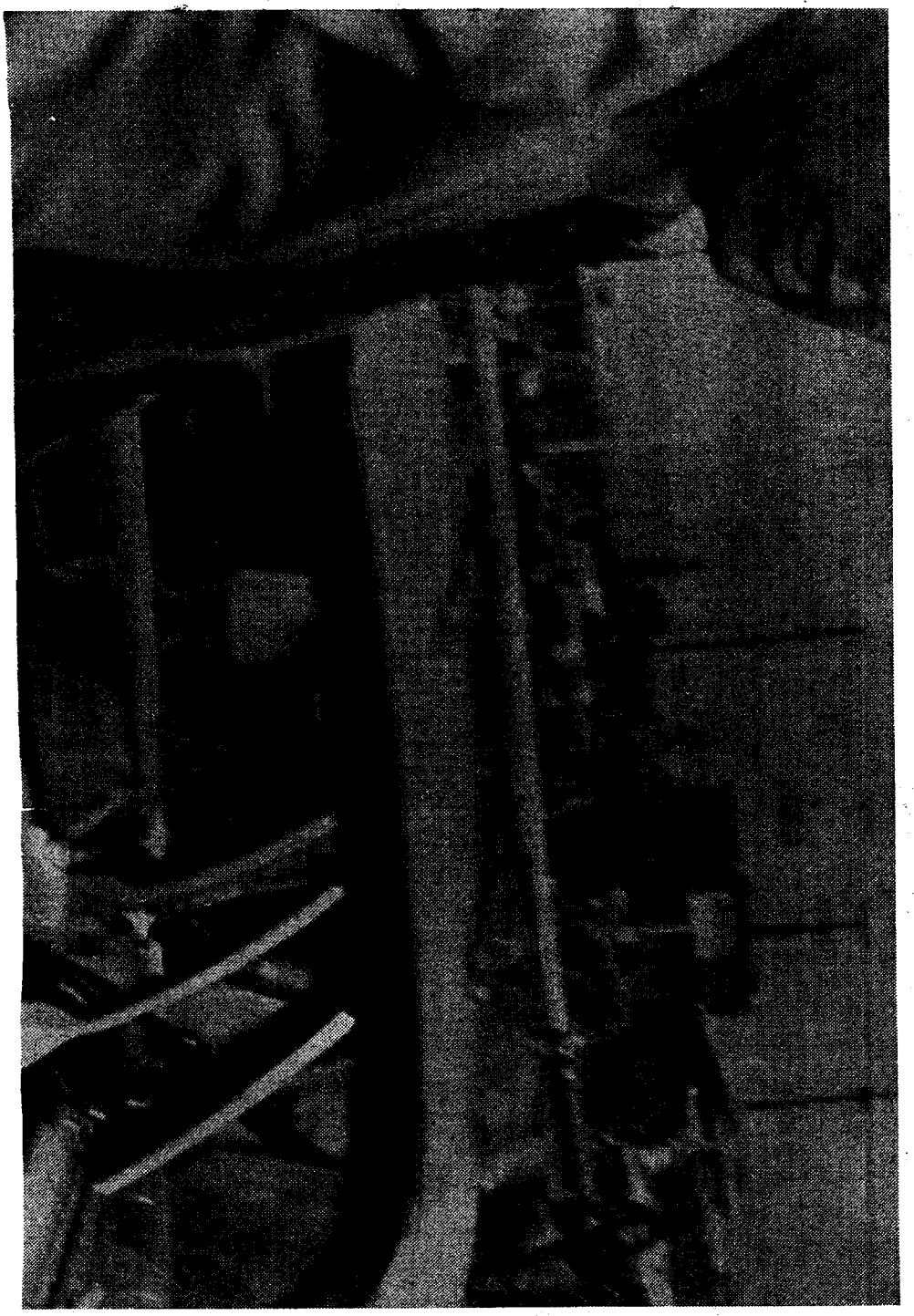
DANIEL WALKER, Democratic candidate for governor, denounced the shooting as the "kind of lawless act that has no place in American life."

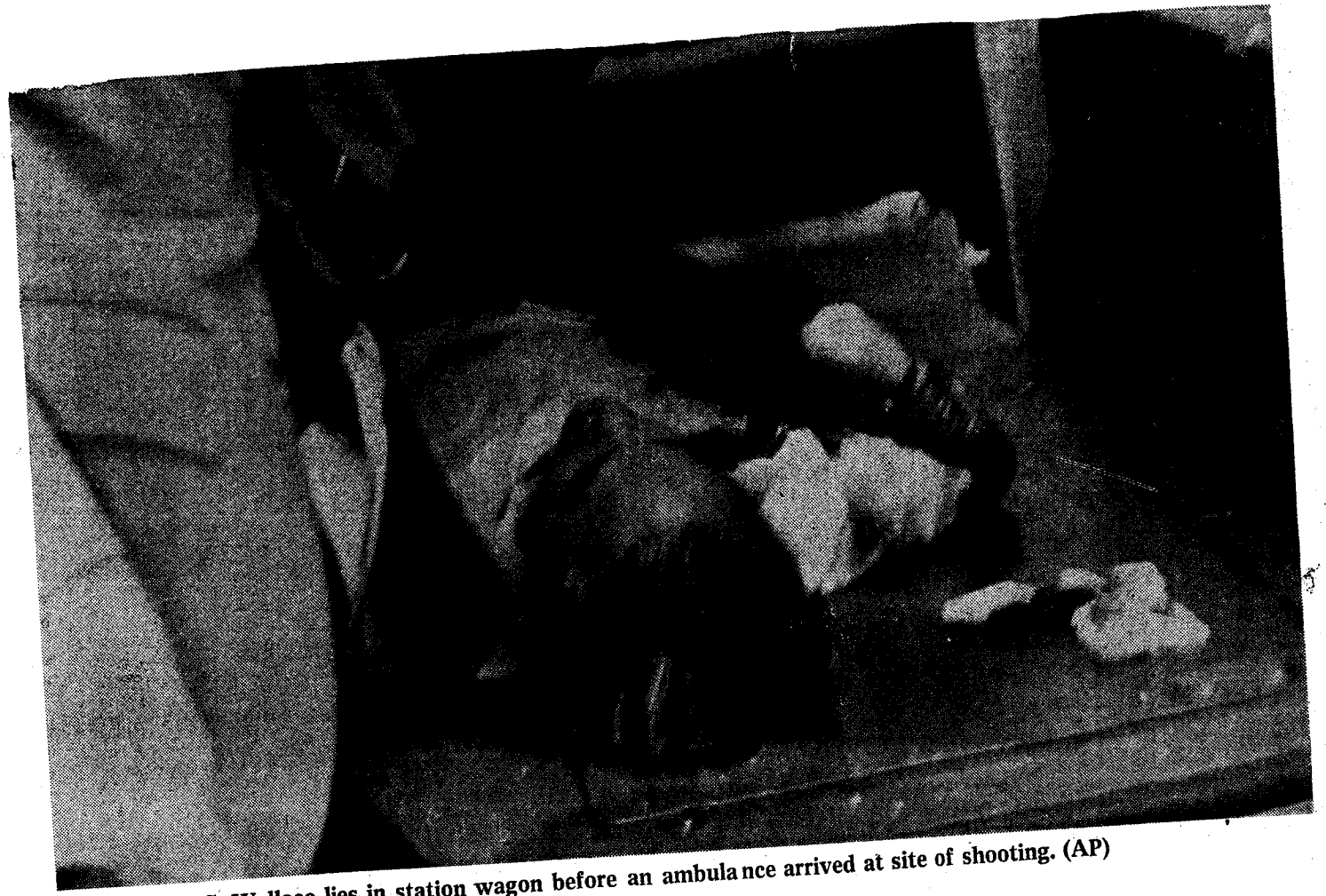
Lt. Gov. Paul Simon announced the shooting to the Illinois Senate and said, "Whether we agree or disagree with what Wallace says, all of us must respect his right to say it. This is another sad day in our country's history."

State Sen. Charles Chew (D-Chicago), a black legislator, said, "I've met Wallace, and he was a very friendly man. God help these crazy people in America."

Senators Robert Coulson (R-Waukegan) and Terrell Clarke (R-Western Springs), assistant minority leaders of the Senate, issued a joint statement: "These are times of violence and hatred, and we are shocked every time violence replaces reason."

State's Atty. Edward V. Hanrahan termed the shooting "another national disgrace" and said it "should alarm every fair-minded person in this country."





Gov. George C. Wallace lies in station wagon before an ambulance arrived at site of shooting. (AP)